



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

March 9, 2011

## **Local 2010 Census Data Released for Pennsylvania: State Shows Continued Population Growth**

PENN STATE HARRISBURG – The Census Bureau today released the first local 2010 Census results for Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth's population as of April 1, 2010 was 12,702,379. Pennsylvania's population increased 3.4 percent (421,325 total persons) since the last Decennial Census (April 1, 2000). The Commonwealth's population remains the sixth largest in the nation, but is set to lose one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives because of larger population gains in other states.

### **Pennsylvania Counties**

Philadelphia County realized an increase in population the first time since the 1950 Census. Philadelphia (1,526,066), Allegheny (1,223,348), and Montgomery (799,874) remain Pennsylvania's most populous counties (see table 1). Together, these three counties make up over one-quarter (27.9 percent) of the state's total population. Cameron (5,085), Sullivan (6,428) and Forest (7,716) have the smallest populations.

Population growth for the counties varied over the decade. Forest County had the largest percent population increase (56.0 percent) due in large part to the construction of a state correctional institution in 2004 (see map). Other than Forest County, Pike County led all Pennsylvania counties in population percent increase from 2000 to 2010, increasing by 23.9 percent. Monroe (22.5 percent), Franklin (15.7 percent), Chester (15.1 percent, and York (13.9 percent) counties followed in terms of largest percent change in population for the decade. In general, population growth is concentrated in the Eastern, South-Central, and South Eastern counties.

Counties with the highest percent population loss over the last decade were concentrated in the Western and North-Central part of the state. Twenty-eight counties experienced population loss during this period, led by Cameron (-14.9 percent), Elk (-9.0 percent) and Fayette (8.1 percent) counties. Allegheny County (-4.6 percent) also experienced population loss.

Data on population change by municipality can be found online at the PaSDC web site at <http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu>, click on Census 2010. Also, for local comment on the P.L 94-171 Data, please visit [http:// pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/AboutUs/Partners/tabid/1033/Default.aspx](http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/AboutUs/Partners/tabid/1033/Default.aspx) to contact a PaSDC Affiliate in your area.

## **Pennsylvania Population by Race and Ethnicity**

Pennsylvania's racial and ethnic composition is growing more diverse. The minority population in Pennsylvania increased 33.1 percent since the 2000 Census to a total of 2,607,727 people. Minority is defined as anyone who indicated that they were either Hispanic or a race other than white alone. The fastest growing minority population group in Pennsylvania over the last decade was in the Hispanic population (82.6 percent), followed by those classified as multi race (67.2 percent), Some Other Race (59.7 percent), Asian (58.8 percent) and American Indian and Alaska Native (46.3 percent). The Black or African American population increased by 12.5 percent since 2000. Meanwhile, between 2000 and 2010, the non-Hispanic White population declined by 0.7 percent. Note: all of the race data is for non-Hispanics.

## **Other Selected Highlights**

- The number of housing units in Pennsylvania increased from 5,249,750 in 2000 to 5,567,315 in 2010; a 6.0 percent increase. Among counties, Centre County (19.1 percent) had the largest percent increase in housing units during the last decade.
- Of the Commonwealth's 5,567,315 housing units, 9.9 percent were vacant in 2010. Forest County (71.3 percent) had the largest proportion of vacant housing units in the state, while Bucks County (4.5 percent) had the smallest.
- The proportion of the population 18 years and older in Pennsylvania increased from 76.2 percent to 78.0 between 2000 and 2010.

Additional data, tables, charts and maps showing population and housing unit characteristics and change since 2000 are available for the Commonwealth and its counties at the Pennsylvania State Data Center web site, which can be accessed at <http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu>.

## **Redistricting**

The data for Pennsylvania released today comes from the 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171). It is the first set of population data available from the 2010 Census for Pennsylvania counties, municipalities, and other geographies down to the census block level. These local-level census data are used by state officials to realign congressional and state legislative districts in Pennsylvania.

The P.L. 94-117 data also offers a birds-eye view of the racial and ethnic composition, voting age population, and housing unit data of Pennsylvania and its communities. The redistricting data contains summary statistics on population and housing subjects derived from questions on the 2010 Census questionnaire. The data released today as part of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting File today are used to determine eligibility for funding for various federal programs.

According to P.L. 94-171, the Census Bureau must provide redistricting data to the 50 states no later than April 1 of the year following the census. Currently, the Census Bureau is delivering the data state-by-state on a flow basis. After receipt of the data, the states will begin redrawing their congressional and state legislative boundaries to reflect changes in population since the last decennial census. The redistricting process will continue with public hearings, review of proposed plans, and ultimate adoption of revised districts.

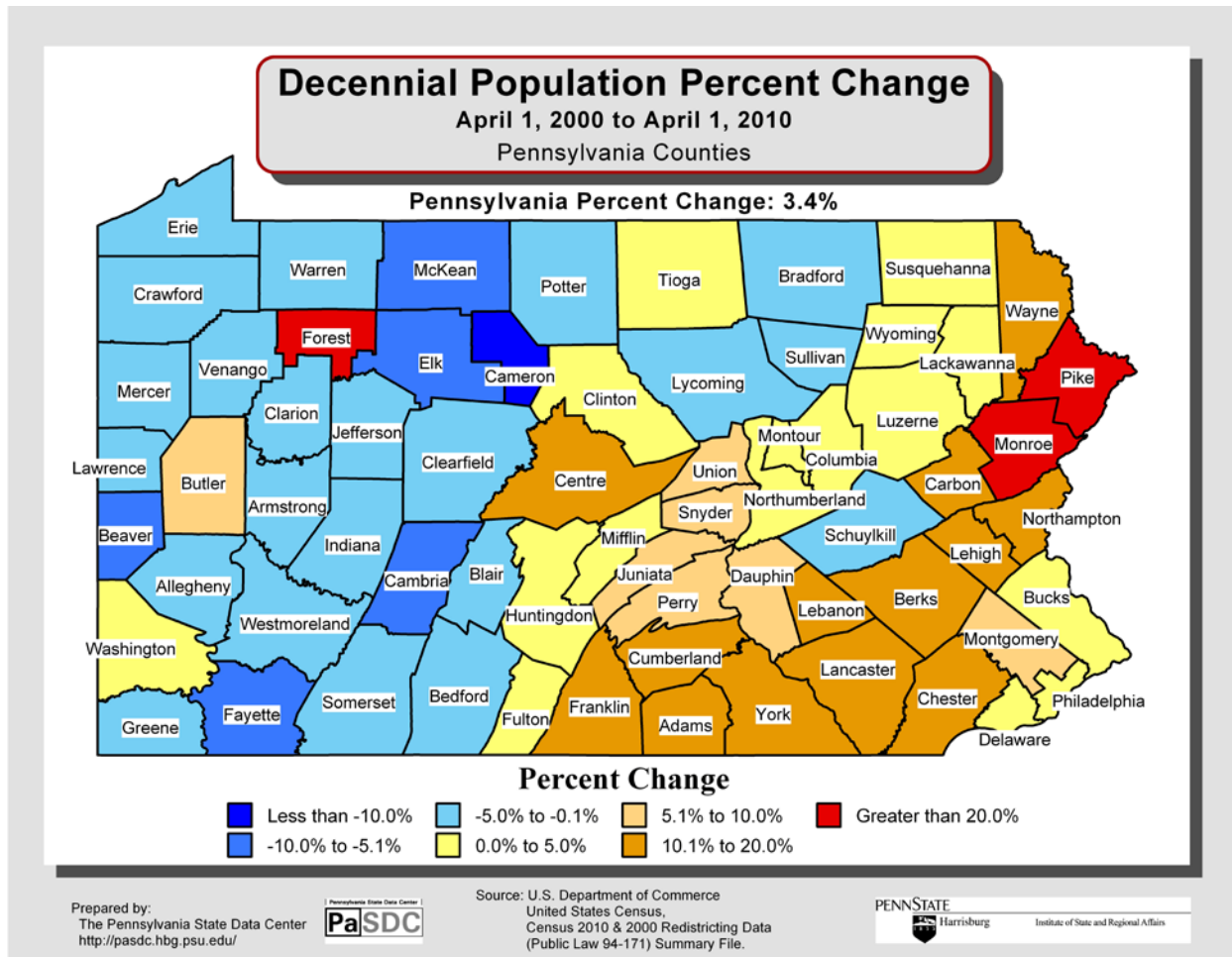
**Table 1. Resident Population Change for Counties of Pennsylvania and County Rankings  
April 1, 2000 to April 1, 2010**

Geographic Area	Total Population		Change, 2000 to 2010		State Ranking of Counties			
	Census 2010	Census 2000	Number	Percent	Total Population		Change, 2000 to 2010	
					Census 2010	Census 2000	Number	Percent
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>12,702,379</b>	<b>12,281,054</b>	<b>421,325</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	-	-	-	-
Adams	101,407	91,292	10,115	11.1%	31	33	16	10
Allegheny	1,223,348	1,281,666	-58,318	-4.6%	2	2	67	58
Armstrong	68,941	72,392	-3,451	-4.8%	38	38	59	60
Beaver	170,539	181,412	-10,873	-6.0%	20	19	65	64
Bedford	49,762	49,984	-222	-0.4%	45	43	42	42
Berks	411,442	373,638	37,804	10.1%	9	9	5	16
Blair	127,089	129,144	-2,055	-1.6%	28	27	54	46
Bradford	62,622	62,761	-139	-0.2%	41	40	41	41
Bucks	625,249	597,635	27,614	4.6%	4	4	9	25
Butler	183,862	174,083	9,779	5.6%	19	20	17	22
Cambria	143,679	152,598	-8,919	-5.8%	25	21	64	63
Cameron	5,085	5,974	-889	-14.9%	67	66	47	67
Carbon	65,249	58,802	6,447	11.0%	40	41	20	11
Centre	153,990	135,758	18,232	13.4%	22	25	12	7
Chester	498,886	433,501	65,385	15.1%	7	7	1	5
Clarion	39,988	41,765	-1,777	-4.3%	55	53	50	56
Clearfield	81,642	83,382	-1,740	-2.1%	36	36	49	50
Clinton	39,238	37,914	1,324	3.5%	57	57	30	27
Columbia	67,295	64,151	3,144	4.9%	39	39	24	24
Crawford	88,765	90,366	-1,601	-1.8%	35	34	48	48
Cumberland	235,406	213,674	21,732	10.2%	16	16	10	15
Dauphin	268,100	251,798	16,302	6.5%	15	15	13	20
Delaware	558,979	550,864	8,115	1.5%	5	5	19	30
Elk	31,946	35,112	-3,166	-9.0%	59	59	58	66
Erie	280,566	280,843	-277	-0.1%	14	13	43	40
Fayette	136,606	148,644	-12,038	-8.1%	26	23	66	65
Forest	7,716	4,946	2,770	56.0%	65	67	25	1
Franklin	149,618	129,313	20,305	15.7%	23	26	11	4
Fulton	14,845	14,261	584	4.1%	64	64	34	26
Greene	38,686	40,672	-1,986	-4.9%	58	56	51	61
Huntingdon	45,913	45,586	327	0.7%	48	49	35	32
Indiana	88,880	89,605	-725	-0.8%	34	35	45	43
Jefferson	45,200	45,932	-732	-1.6%	49	48	46	46
Juniata	24,636	22,821	1,815	8.0%	61	61	28	17
Lackawanna	214,437	213,295	1,142	0.5%	17	17	31	35
Lancaster	519,445	470,658	48,787	10.4%	6	6	4	14
Lawrence	91,108	94,643	-3,535	-3.7%	33	31	60	55
Lebanon	133,568	120,327	13,241	11.0%	27	28	14	11
Lehigh	349,497	312,090	37,407	12.0%	11	12	6	8
Luzerne	320,918	319,250	1,668	0.5%	12	11	29	35
Lycoming	116,111	120,044	-3,933	-3.3%	30	30	62	53
McKean	43,450	45,936	-2,486	-5.4%	51	47	56	62
Mercer	116,638	120,293	-3,655	-3.0%	29	29	61	52
Mifflin	46,682	46,486	196	0.4%	46	45	36	37

**Table 1. Resident Population Change for Counties of Pennsylvania and County Rankings  
April 1, 2000 to April 1, 2010**

Geographic Area	Total Population		Change, 2000 to 2010		State Ranking of Counties			
					Total Population		Change, 2000 to 2010	
	Census 2010	Census 2000	Number	Percent	Census 2010	Census 2000	Number	Percent
Monroe	169,842	138,687	31,155	22.5%	21	24	7	3
Montgomery	799,874	750,097	49,777	6.6%	3	3	3	19
Montour	18,267	18,236	31	0.2%	62	62	38	38
Northampton	297,735	267,066	30,669	11.5%	13	14	8	9
Northumberland	94,528	94,556	-28	0.0%	32	32	39	39
Perry	45,969	43,602	2,367	5.4%	47	51	26	23
Philadelphia	1,526,006	1,517,550	8,456	0.6%	1	1	18	34
Pike	57,369	46,302	11,067	23.9%	42	46	15	2
Potter	17,457	18,080	-623	-3.4%	63	63	44	54
Schuylkill	148,289	150,336	-2,047	-1.4%	24	22	52	45
Snyder	39,702	37,546	2,156	5.7%	56	58	27	21
Somerset	77,742	80,023	-2,281	-2.9%	37	37	55	51
Sullivan	6,428	6,556	-128	-2.0%	66	65	40	49
Susquehanna	43,356	42,238	1,118	2.6%	52	52	32	28
Tioga	41,981	41,373	608	1.5%	53	55	33	30
Union	44,947	41,624	3,323	8.0%	50	54	23	17
Venango	54,984	57,565	-2,581	-4.5%	43	42	57	57
Warren	41,815	43,863	-2,048	-4.7%	54	50	53	59
Washington	207,820	202,897	4,923	2.4%	18	18	22	29
Wayne	52,822	47,722	5,100	10.7%	44	44	21	13
Westmoreland	365,169	369,993	-4,824	-1.3%	10	10	63	44
Wyoming	28,276	28,080	196	0.7%	60	60	36	32
York	434,972	381,751	53,221	13.9%	8	8	2	6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 & 2010 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File



The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth’s expert in demographics and Census datasets. To request custom American Community Survey data tables or maps, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center at 717.772.2710.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 & 2010 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth’s official source for population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg’s Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau’s National State Data Center Program.

**Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center’s State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg’s Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.**